

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 07413

IO - FOR ASST SECY MAYNES; NEA - FOR ASST SECY SAUNDERS
FROM SORENSON

PLEASE PASS HEW - SECRETARY CALIFANO ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, WHO
SUBJECT: WHO - RECENT DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING THE
- ARAB-ISRAELI QUESTION

REFERENCE: A. GENEVA 7388; B. GENEVA 7390

1. DURING FRIDAY EVENING AND SATURDAY MORNING
DELEGATION MEMBERS FANNED OUT TO MAKE POINTS MENTIONED
IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF REFTEL WITH KEY AFRICAN AND G-77
DELEGATES. IN ADDITION TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES MENTIONED
SUBPARAGRAPH 3-B, DR. BRYANT AND BOB ANDREW CONTACTED
REPRESENTATIVES OF RWANDA (THIS YEAR'S CHAIRMAN OF
THE AFRICAN GROUP IN WHA), GAMBIA, GHANA, ZAMBIA AND
BENIN. GENERAL RESPONSE HAS BEEN TO LISTEN POLITELY
AND BE NONCOMMITAL. Z. DLAMINI OF SWAZILAND INDICATED
THAT, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, HE WOULD ATTEMPT TO
EXERT MODERATING INFLUENCE, BUT NOTED THAT FEELING
AGAINST ISRAEL WAS RUNNING PARTICULARLY HIGH IN MOSLEM
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AND FRENCH-SPEAKING AFRICAN COUNTRIES. THE SENEGAL
AND LIBERIAN REPRESENTATIVES WERE CAUTIOUSLY HELPFUL,
INDICATING THAT THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO PLAY A MODERATING
ROLE WHEN THIS COMES UP IN THE OAU, AS THEY DID LAST
YEAR. PERHAPS THE MOST FORTHCOMING WAS MWANANSHIKU
OF ZAMBIA WHO SAID HE WAS ANXIOUS TO SUPPORT ANY MOVE
THAT WOULD MOVE AWAY FROM THE DRAFT CONTAINED REFTEL.

GIVEN THE PREDELICCTIONS OF THESE VARIOUS COUNTRIES, WE PLAN TO CONCENTRATE OUR EFFORTS WITH THE ANGLOPHONE COUNTRIES.

2. I SAW THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR LAST NIGHT AND DR. BRYANT SAW DR. KILGORE, THE HEAD OF THE UK DELEGATION. WE BOTH GOT THE SAME STORY WHICH WAS THAT THE EC-9 HAD A MEETING FRIDAY, THAT IF IT CAME TO A VOTE HEY WOULD ABSTAIN ON SECTIONS A AND B, OPPOSE SECTION C AND PROBABLY D AS WELL. THEY HAVE CABLED THEIR RESPECTIVE CAPITALS FOR INSTRUCTIONS AND WILL BE MEETING AGAIN MONDAY TO DECIDE ON NEXT STEPS. THE CANADIANS ARE SIMILARLY CONCERNED AND KEEPING IN CLOSE TOUCH. WE WILL CONTINUE TO EXPAND OUR DISCUSSIONS AND WILL BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THEM OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

3. WE SAW DR. MAHLER EARLY SATURDAY MORNING. HE SHARES OUR CONCERNS AND WILL BE WORKING THROUGH HIS OWN CHANNELS OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS TO OBTAIN THE MOST MODERATE OUT-COME FOR THE ORGANIZATION THAT IS POSSIBLE. HE ALSO MADE HIMSELF AVAILABLE AT ANY TIME WE NEED TO REACH HIM.

4. WE HAVE HEARD THAT STILL ANOTHER DRAFT PREPARED BY THE EGYPTIANS IS BEING CIRCULATED WHICH HAS AN EVEN TOUGHER TONE. WE ARE TOLD THAT IT CONTAINS LANGUAGE WHICH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, WOULD CHANGE THE FINAL PHRASE
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OF PARAGRAPH C-5 OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION REPORTED REFTEL TO READ: QUOTE, DEMANDS (EXIGE) THE APPLICATION OF THE MEASURES PROVIDED FOR BY THE CONSTITUTION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, UNQUOTE, RATHER THAN, QUOTE, ARE GROUNDS FOR ENVISAGING (INCITE A ENVISAGER) THE APPLICATION OF MEASURES...ETC., UNQUOTE. WE ARE TRYING TO GET A COPY OF THIS DRAFT SO THAT WE CAN EXAMINE IT MORE CLOSELY.

5. AS WE NOW SEE THE SITUATION, THE RADICAL ARAB STATES WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS, IN THESE PRELIMINARY STAGES, FOR THE APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 7. WE THINK THAT WISER COUNSEL WILL ULTIMATELY PREVAIL AND WE SHALL END UP WITH ANOTHER HARD RESOLUTION, BUT ONE WHICH STOPS SHORT OF THIS EXTREME STEP, AS IT DID LAST YEAR. ON BALANCE, THE VIEW AT THIS MOMENT IS THAT IT WILL BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO AVOID A FEW HOURS OF TOUGH, FIERY RHETORIC WHEN THIS SUBJECT COMES TO THE ASSEMBLY. THE ONE THING THAT IS CERTAIN IS THAT THIS ISSUE WILL CONTINUE TO PLAGUE THE ORGANIZATION UNTIL THE MIDDLE-EAST PROBLEM ITSELF IS PERCEIVED AS MOVING TOWARDS RESOLUTION. SORENSON

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